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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-32(CANCELED).

33(Currently Amended). A purified and isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:

(i) a nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13;

or

(ii) ~~a nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13,~~
wherein T is U; or

(iii) a nucleic acid sequence 100% complementary to (i) ~~or (ii).~~

Claims 34-46(CANCELED).

47(Currently Amended). A nucleic acid molecule of claim 33 which differs from any of the nucleic acid sequences of (i) to (iii) ~~(ii)~~ in codon sequences due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

48(Previously Presented). A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 33.

49(Currently Amended). A purified and isolated host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 33.

50(Previously Presented). A probe comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 33.

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51(Previously Presented). A composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 33 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or diluent.

52(Currently Amended). A method for preparing a protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising:

(i) a nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13;
or

(ii) a nucleic acid sequence 100% complementary to (i), of claim 33 said
method comprising the steps of:

- (a) transferring a vector of claim 48 into a host cell;
- (b) selecting transformed host cells from untransformed host cells;
- (c) culturing a selected transformed host cell under conditions which allow expression of said protein; and
- (d) isolating said protein.

53(Previously Presented). A probe comprising a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13.

54(Currently Amended). An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising nucleotides selected from the group consisting of nucleotides 2221-2293, 2294-4761, 4762-5023, 5024-5762, 5763-6019, 6020-6104, 6105-6238, ~~6237-11091~~ 6239-11091, and 11092-11247 of SEQ ID NO: 13.

55(New). An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 54, wherein said molecule encodes a KLK-L2 and consists of nucleotides 2221-2293, 4762-5023, 5763-6019, 6105-6238, and 11092-11247 of SEQ ID NO: 13

56(New). An isolated nucleic acid molecule which is complementary to a nucleic acid molecule comprising nucleotides selected from the group consisting of nucleotides 2221-2293, 2294-4761, 4762-5023, 5024-5762, 5763-6019, 6020-6104, 6105-6238, 6239-11091, and 11092-11247 of SEQ ID NO: 13.

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57(New). A purified and isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:

- (i) a nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13, wherein T is U; or
- (ii) a nucleic acid sequence 100% complementary to (i).

58(New). A purified and isolated nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a sequence comprising:

- (i) a nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13;
- or
- (ii) a nucleic acid sequence 100% complementary to (i).

59(New). A purified and isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 58, wherein the stringent conditions comprise a 0.2 x sodium chloride/sodium citrate solution and a temperature of about 50°C.

60(New). A purified and isolated nucleic molecule according to claim 58, wherein the stringent conditions comprise a 0.2 x sodium chloride/sodium citrate solution and a temperature of about 65°C.